

REMARKS

Applicant is filing this Amendment, which is a duplicate of an Amendment believed to have been filed on May 24, 2007. However, as Applicant, at the present, is unable to verify that the USPTO received the May 24, 2007 Amendment, Applicant requests the USPTO to consider and enter this Amendment and to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

By way of this Amendment and to the extent not already canceled by way of the Amendment filed on May 24, 2007, claims 17, 18, 37-41 and 50-54 have been canceled. Therefore, claims 15, 19 and 20 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 15, 19 and 20 are rejected.

Claim 20 is objected to.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takashi et al. (JP-187868) in view of Mitani (U.S. Patent No. 5,621,524).

Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takashi et al. in view of Mitani, and further in view of Otsuka et al. (U.S. Patent No., 6,305,792).

Claim 22 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Applicants request reconsideration.

The base claim 15 is amended to include limitations from the presently allowed claim 22. Claims 19 and 20 are dependent on claim 15. Therefore, claims 15, 19 and 20 are allowable.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Application No.: 10/786,331

Attorney Docket No.: Q80114

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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